

Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Agency Biennial Computer Matching Report"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6301. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-357, "Special Event Waste Diversion Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6302. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-356, "Health Benefit Exchange Authority Financial Sustainability Temporary Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6303. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-355, "Educator Evaluation Data Collection Temporary Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6304. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-354, "Vending Regulations Temporary Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6305. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on Council Resolution 20-502, "Transfer of Jurisdiction Over Lot 802, Square 4325 within Fort Lincoln New Town Emergency Approval Resolution of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6306. A communication from the Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2013 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6307. A communication from the Acting Inspector General of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification that the audit of the financial statements of the Federal Trade Commission for fiscal year 2014 has commenced; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6308. A communication from the Chief of the Broadband Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions" ((GN Docket No. 12-268) (FCC 14-50)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6309. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Specifications for the 2014-2015 Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries" (RIN0648-XD094) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6310. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico,

and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Amendment 20A" (RIN0648-BD83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6311. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Dolphin and Wahoo Fishery Off the Atlantic States; Amendment 5" (RIN0648-BD08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6312. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Re-establishing the Sanctuary Nomination Process" (RIN0648-BD20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6313. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of the Amateur Service Rules Governing Qualifying Examination Systems and Other Matters" ((WT Docket No. 12-283) (FCC 14-74)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6314. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Policies Regarding Mobile Spectrum Holdings; Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions" ((WT Docket Nos. 12-268 and 12-269) (FCC 14-63)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 25, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6315. A communication from the Vice President, Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Amtrak's Executive Level 1 salary for 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6316. A communication from the Executive Analyst, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Finance.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-267. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois urging Congress and the President of the United States to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1076

Whereas, Insurance protects the United States economy from the adverse effects of the risks inherent in economic growth and

development while also providing the resources necessary to rebuild physical and economic infrastructure, offer indemnification for business disruption, and provide coverage for medical and liability costs from injuries and loss of life in the event of catastrophic losses to persons or property; and

Whereas, The terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 produced insured losses larger than any natural or man-made event in history; claims paid by insurers to their policyholders eventually totaled some \$32.5 billion, making this the second most costly insurance event in United States history; and

Whereas, The sheer enormity of the terrorist-induced loss, combined with the possibility of haute attacks, produced financial shockwaves that shook insurance markets, causing insurers and reinsurers to exclude coverage arising from acts of terrorism from virtually all commercial property and liability policies; and

Whereas, The lack of terrorism risk insurance contributed to a paralysis in the economy, especially in construction, tourism, business travel, and real estate finance; and

Whereas, The United States Congress originally passed the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-297 (TRIA), in which the federal government agreed to provide terrorism reinsurance to insurers and reauthorized this arrangement via the Terrorism Risk Insurance Extension Act of 2005, Pub. L. 109-144, and the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110-160 (TRIPRA); and

Whereas, Under TRIPRA, the federal government provides such reinsurance after industry-wide losses attributable to annual certified terrorism events exceed \$100 million; and

Whereas, Coverage under TRIPRA is provided to an individual insurer after the insurer has incurred losses related to terrorism equal to 20% of the insurer's previous year earned premium for property-casualty lines; and

Whereas, After an individual insurer has reached such a threshold, the insurer pays 15% of residual losses and the federal government pays the remaining 85%; and

Whereas, The Terrorism Risk Insurance Program has an annual cap of \$100 billion of aggregate insured losses, beyond which the federal program does not provide coverage; and

Whereas, TRIPRA requires the federal government to recoup 100% of the benefits provided under the program via policyholder surcharges to the extent the aggregate insured losses are less than \$27.5 billion and enables the government to recoup expenditures beyond that mandatory recoupment amount; and

Whereas, Without question, TRIA and its successors are the principal reason for the continued stability in the insurance and reinsurance market for terrorism insurance to the benefit of our overall economy; and

Whereas, The presence of a robust private/public partnership has provided stability and predictability and has allowed insurers to actively participate in the market in a meaningful way; and

Whereas, Without a program such as TRIPRA, many citizens who want and need terrorism coverage to operate their businesses all across the nation would be either unable to get insurance or unable to afford the limited coverage that would be available; and

Whereas, Without federally provided reinsurance, property and casualty insurers will face less availability of terrorism reinsurance and will therefore be severely restricted in their ability to provide sufficient coverage for acts of terrorism to support our economy; and

Whereas, Unfortunately, despite the hard work and dedication of this nation's counterterrorism agencies and the bravery of the men and women in uniform who fought and continue to fight battles abroad to keep us safe here at home, the threat from terrorist attacks in the United States is both real and substantial and will remain as such for the foreseeable future: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Illinois,* That we urge Congress and the President of the United States to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program; and be it further

*Resolved,* That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore and the Secretary of the United States Senate, and the members of the Illinois congressional delegation.

POM-268. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the Secretary of the Interior to immediately take all necessary measures to operate the Yuma Desalting Plant; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1001

Whereas, under a treaty agreement entered into in 1973, the United States is required to ensure that water delivered to Mexico as part of Mexico's allocation of Colorado River water meets certain water quality standards; and

Whereas, in accordance with this agreement, the United States Congress enacted the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act of 1974, which directed and authorized the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain a desalting plant to treat drainage water from the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District and deliver the treated water to Mexico; and

Whereas, construction of the Yuma Desalting Plant was completed in 1992; and

Whereas, the Yuma Desalting Plant is capable of treating 100,000 acre-feet of water annually; and

Whereas, except for limited, initial operations in 1993, a demonstration run completed in 2007 and a nine-month pilot run completed in 2011, the federal government has failed to operate the Yuma Desalting Plant for most of its 30 years of existence; and

Whereas, the Department of the Interior is using 100,000 acre-feet of water from Lake Mead to fulfill its water quality obligations to Mexico, rather than conserving an equivalent amount of water through the operation of the Yuma Desalting Plant; and

Whereas, the Colorado River system is in its 14th consecutive year of drought; and

Whereas, as a result of these drought conditions, the Department of the Interior is projecting that a shortage on the Colorado River is increasingly likely, with the probability that the shortage will exceed 50% in 2017; and

Whereas, the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study released by the Bureau of Reclamation in December 2012 concluded that there will be a future imbalance between the supply and demand for Colorado River water and cited measures such as water conservation, reuse and augmentation to stave off future shortages on the Colorado River; and

Whereas, the Central Arizona Project is a junior priority rights holder to Colorado River water and would bear the largest reduction of Colorado River water in times of shortage; and

Whereas, by abdicating its obligation to operate the Yuma Desalting Plant, the fed-

eral government has caused the loss of more than 1,300,000 acre-feet from Lake Mead, placing the State of Arizona at increased risk of water shortage; and

Whereas, if the federal government were to operate the Yuma Desalting Plant, it would conserve 100,000 acre-feet per year, equivalent to the water needed to supply more than 250,000 Arizona homes with water annually.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior immediately take all necessary measures to operate the Yuma Desalting Plant.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-269. A memorial adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to recognize that open-air burn pits impose significant health risks and enact a presumption of a service connection between open-air burn pit exposure and subsequent illnesses that is similar to the presumption in place for exposure to Agent Orange; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### HOUSE MEMORIAL 2002

Whereas, during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, open-air burn pits were widely used for the disposal of waste in place of incinerators until bases became more established. The military burned nearly everything in the open-air burn pits, including plastic, styrofoam, electronics, metal cans, rubber, ammunition, explosives, human waste and lithium batteries; and

Whereas, in 2011, an Institute of Medicine study, requested by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, concluded that there was insufficient data to determine whether burn pit emissions had long-term health consequences. However, some United States military personnel that were stationed near burn pits have stated that burn pit exposure has led to a litany of medical problems; and

Whereas, after careful review of the Institute of Medicine report, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has directed the Veterans Health Administration to conduct a long-term prospective study on all adverse health effects potentially related to military deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan, including health effects potentially related to exposure to airborne hazards and burn pits; and

Whereas, congressional lawmakers passed, and President Obama signed, a bill in 2013 that creates a registry similar to the Agent Orange and Gulf War registries to help patients, doctors and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs determine the extent to which air pollution caused by open-air burn pits has led to medical diseases among service members.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, prays:

1. That the United States Congress recognize that open-air burn pits impose significant health risks and enact a presumption of a service connection between open-air burn pit exposure and subsequent illnesses that is similar to the presumption in place for exposure to Agent Orange.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Rep-

resentatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-270. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California supporting the extension of the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program and respectfully memorializing the United States Congress to promptly renew the extension of unemployment benefits that will tremendously aid millions of people; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

Whereas, In 2008, the United States suffered its worst economic crisis since the Great Depression; and

Whereas, The economic downturn resulted in a 10 percent unemployment rate nationwide by 2009, and a rate as high as 12.4 percent in California; and

Whereas, When unemployment benefits were first authorized, the national unemployment rate was only 5.6 percent; and

Whereas, Now the current unemployment rate is at 7 percent and 36 states, including California, have higher rates of unemployment; and

Whereas, California's unemployed workers currently face one of the toughest job markets in the country, with statewide unemployment at 8.5 percent and three unemployed workers for every available job; and

Whereas, In 2009, Congress passed the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program which extended benefits to those out of work for up to 99 weeks to give relief to many that have endured an extended period of unemployment. Unemployed workers in California receive 37 weeks of EUC, and 26 weeks of state benefits, averaging just two hundred ninety-two dollars (\$292) a week; and

Whereas, On December 28, 2013, the EUC program expired without an extension from Congress. On that day, 214,000 unemployed workers ran out of EUC in California and 12,500 more will be doing so daily; and

Whereas, As of February 24, 2014, close to 1,273,100 unemployed workers in California have run out of all available unemployment benefits; and

Whereas, The EUC program brought \$4.5 billion in benefits to the California economy in 2013 alone; and

Whereas, It is crucial for the United States government to take action in renewing the EUC program and extending the unemployment benefits that millions of people direly need: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly,* That the Legislature supports the extension of the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program and respectfully memorializes the United States Congress to promptly renew the extension of unemployment benefits that will tremendously aid millions of people; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

POM-271. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to repeal the requirement that physicians who have a National Provider Identifier enroll in or opt out of Medicare as a condition for payment of claims for ordered or provided covered services under federal health care programs; to the Committee on Finance.

## SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1009

Whereas, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148) as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-152), collectively known as the Affordable Care Act, expands the role of federal health care programs and regulations over the private health care market; and

Whereas, the Affordable Care Act makes many changes to the Medicare and Medicaid programs, some of which involve strengthening tools for quality and integrity; and

Whereas, the Affordable Care Act has resulted in numerous regulations for health care providers; and

Whereas, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requires physicians to enroll in Medicare or opt out of Medicare in order for health care providers to receive payment for services; and

Whereas, wrong addresses, telephone numbers and licensing information for physicians have been found throughout Medicare enrollment systems that are used to approve claims; and

Whereas, an estimated 58% of enrollment records in the Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System were inaccurate, and 48% of records in the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System had errors; and

Whereas, more and more physicians are choosing not to accept Medicare or Medicaid due to increased government regulations and reduced levels of reimbursement; and

Whereas, the federal Medicare enrollment requirement has the unintended consequence of limiting facility options for physicians to admit and treat their patients.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress repeal the requirement that physicians who have a National Provider Identifier enroll in or opt out of Medicare as a condition for payment of claims for ordered or provided covered services under federal health care programs.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-272. A memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida urging the United States Congress to enact H.R. 25, the Fair Tax Act of 2013, which eliminates the personal income tax, the alternative minimum tax, the inheritance tax, the gift tax, the capital gains tax, the corporate income tax, the self-employment tax, and the employee and employer payroll tax and replaces them with a national retail sales tax; to the Committee on Finance.

## SENATE MEMORIAL 118

Whereas, our Founding Fathers, being mindful that history has demonstrated that income taxes give government too much power over citizens, specifically forbade such taxes in the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, Alexander Hamilton wrote in *The Federalist* No. 21 that "it is a signal advantage of taxes on articles of consumption, that they contain in their own nature a security against excess," and

Whereas, the current income tax system requires individual taxpayers to prepare annual tax returns using many complicated forms, causing innocent errors that are heavily punished; and

Whereas, the current income tax system actually penalizes marriage; and

Whereas, the federal income tax:

(1) Retards economic growth and has reduced the standard of living of the American public;

(2) Impedes the international competitiveness of United States industry;

(3) Reduces savings and investment in the United States by taxing income multiple times;

(4) Slows the capital formation necessary for real wages to steadily increase;

(5) Lowers productivity;

(6) Imposes unacceptable and unnecessary administrative and compliance costs on individual and business taxpayers;

(7) Is unfair and inequitable;

(8) Unnecessarily intrudes upon the privacy and civil rights of United States citizens;

(9) Hides the true costs of government by embedding taxes in the costs of everything that Americans buy;

(10) Is not being complied with at satisfactory levels and, therefore, raises the tax burden on law-abiding citizens; and

(11) Impedes upward social mobility, and Whereas, federal payroll taxes, including social security and Medicare payroll taxes and self-employment taxes:

(1) Raise the cost of employment;

(2) Destroy jobs and cause unemployment; and

(3) Have a disproportionately adverse impact on lower-income Americans, and

Whereas, the federal estate and gift taxes:

(1) Force family businesses and farms to be sold by the family in order to pay taxes;

(2) Discourage capital formation and entrepreneurship;

(3) Foster the continued dominance of large enterprises over small family-owned companies and farms; and

(4) Impose unacceptably high tax-planning costs on small businesses and farms, and

Whereas, a broad-based national sales tax on goods and services purchased for final consumption:

(1) Is similar in many respects to the sales and use taxes that are authorized in 45 of the 50 states;

(2) Will promote savings and investment;

(3) Will promote fairness;

(4) Will promote economic growth;

(5) Will raise the standard of living;

(6) Will enhance productivity and international competitiveness;

(7) Will reduce administrative burdens on the American taxpayer;

(8) Will improve upward social mobility; and

(9) Will respect the privacy interests and civil rights of taxpayers, and

Whereas, Congress should consider when implementing the administration of a national sales tax that:

(1) Most of the practical experience in administering sales taxes is found at the state level;

(2) It is desirable to harmonize federal and state collection and enforcement efforts to the maximum extent possible;

(3) It is sound tax administration policy to foster administration and collection of the federal sales tax at the state level in return for a reasonable administration fee to the states; and

(4) A business that must collect and remit taxes should receive reasonable compensation for the cost of doing so, and

Whereas, the 16th Amendment to the United States Constitution should be repealed: Now, Therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:* That the Legislature of the State of Florida, with all due respect, does hereby urge the United States Congress to enact H.R. 25, the Fair Tax Act of 2013, which eliminates the personal income tax, the alternative minimum tax, the inheritance tax,

the gift tax, the capital gains tax, the corporate income tax, the self-employment tax, and the employee and employer payroll tax and replaces them with a national retail sales tax, and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-273. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California calling upon the Congress and the President of the United States to formally and consistently recognize and reaffirm the historical truth that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people constituted genocide; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21

Whereas, During the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923 1.5 million men, women, and children of Armenian descent lost their lives at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish Empire in its attempt to systematically eliminate the Armenian race; and

Whereas, Despite Armenians' historic presence, stewardship, and autonomy in the region, Turkish' rulers of the Ottoman Empire subjected Armenians to severe and unjust persecution and brutality including, but not limited to, widespread and wholesale massacres beginning in the 1890s, most notably the Hamidian Massacres from 1894 to 1896 and the Adana Massacre of 1909; and

Whereas, The earlier massacres and subsequent genocide of the Armenians constitute one of the most atrocious violations of human rights in the history of the world; and

Whereas, Adolph Hitler, in persuading his army commanders that the merciless persecution and killing of Jews, Poles, and other people would bring no retribution, declared, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"; and

Whereas, Unlike other people and governments that have admitted and denounced the abuses and crimes of predecessor regimes, and despite the overwhelming proof of genocidal intent, the Republic of Turkey has inexplicably and adamantly denied the occurrence of the crimes against humanity committed by the Ottoman and Young Turk rulers. Those denials compound the grief of the few remaining survivors of the atrocities, desecrate the memory of the victims, and cause continuing pain to the descendants of the victims; and

Whereas, The Republic of Turkey has escalated its international campaign of Armenian Genocide denial, maintained its blockade of Armenia and increased its pressure on the small but growing movement in Turkey acknowledging the Armenian Genocide and seeking justice for this systematic campaign of destruction of millions of Armenians, Greeks, Assyrians, Pontians, Syrians, and other Christians upon their biblical-era homelands; and

Whereas, Those citizens of Turkey, both Armenian and non-Armenian, who continue to speak the truth about the Armenian Genocide, such as human rights activist and journalist Hrant Dink, continue to be silenced by violent means; and

Whereas, The accelerated level and scope of denial and revisionism, coupled with the passage of time and the fact that very few survivors remain who can serve as reminders of the indescribable brutality and the lives that were tormented, compel a sense of urgency in efforts to solidify recognition of historical truth; and

Whereas, The United States is on record as having officially recognized the Armenian

Genocide in the United States government's May 28, 1951, written statement to the International Court of Justice regarding the Reservations to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, through President Ronald Reagan's April 22, 1981, Proclamation No. 4838, and by Congressional legislation/including House Joint Resolution 148 adopted on April 8, 1975, and House Joint Resolution 247 adopted on September 10, 1984; and

Whereas, Even prior to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the United States has a record of having sought to justly and constructively address the consequences of the Ottoman Empire's intentional destruction of the Armenian people, including through Senate Concurrent Resolution 12 adopted on February 9, 1916, Senate Resolution 359 adopted on May 11, 1920, and President Woodrow Wilson's November 22, 1920, decision entitled, *The Frontier between Armenia and Turkey*; and

Whereas, By consistently remembering and forcefully condemning the atrocities committed against the Armenians, and honoring the survivors as well as other victims of similar heinous conduct, we guard against repetition of such acts of genocide and provide the American public with a greater understanding of history; and

Whereas, This measure would declare that the Legislature deplores the persistent, ongoing efforts by any person, in this country or abroad, to deny the historical fact of the Armenian Genocide; and

Whereas, California is home to the largest Armenian-American population in the United States, and Armenians living in California have enriched our state through their leadership and contribution in business, agriculture, academia, government, and the arts; and

Whereas, The State of California has been at the forefront of encouraging and promoting a curriculum relating to human rights and genocide in order to empower future generations to prevent the recurrence of genocide; and

Whereas, On April 24, 2013, the President of the United States stated, "A full, frank, and just acknowledgment of the facts is in all of our interests. Nations grow stronger by acknowledging and reckoning with painful elements of the past, thereby building a foundation for a more just and tolerant future"; and

Whereas, President Obama entered office having stated his "firmly held conviction that the Armenian Genocide is not an allegation, a personal opinion, or a point of view, but rather a widely documented fact supported by an overwhelming body of historical evidence" and affirmed his record of "calling for Turkey's acknowledgment of the Armenian Genocide"; and

Whereas, The United States' national interests in establishing equitable, constructive, stable, and durable relations between Armenians and Turks cannot be meaningfully advanced by circumventing or otherwise seeking to avoid the central political, legal, security, and meal issue between these two nations: Turkey's denial of truth and justice for the Armenian Genocide: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly*, That the Legislature hereby designates the month of April 2014, as "California Month of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Legislature commends its conscientious educators who teach about human rights and genocide; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Legislature respectfully calls upon the Congress and the President of

the United States to act likewise and to formally and consistently recognize and reaffirm the historical truth that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people constituted genocide; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Legislature calls on the President to work toward equitable, constructive, stable, and durable Armenian-Turkish relations based upon the Republic of Turkey's full acknowledgment of the facts and ongoing consequences of the Armenian Genocide, and a fair, just, and comprehensive international resolution of this crime against humanity; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Legislature calls upon the Republic of Turkey to acknowledge the facts of the Armenian Genocide and to work toward a just resolution; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, the Governor, and the Turkish Ambassador to the United States.

POM-274. A memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida urging the President of the United States to issue final approval for construction and completion of the Keystone XL pipeline project; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### HOUSE MEMORIAL 281

Whereas, Floridians consume approximately 26 million gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel daily and approximately 9.5 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel annually, and

Whereas, across party lines, Floridians have long recognized the dependence of the state's tourism and agricultural economy on access to reliable and affordable petroleum products, and

Whereas, many other Florida industries, including fertilizer, agrochemical, plastic, manufacturing, bakeries, juice processing, pulp and paper, road construction, metals, restaurants, and grocery stores, are heavily dependent on access to reliable and affordable petroleum products to transport goods, and

Whereas, Gulf state refineries produce the vast majority of the gasoline and diesel fuel crude oil delivered and consumed in Florida, and

Whereas, the Keystone XL pipeline will be capable of transporting more than 800,000 barrels of crude oil per day to 57 Gulf state refineries, and

Whereas, the crude oil transported through the Keystone XL pipeline could replace oil from unstable regions of the world with oil from Canada, a friendly and historically reliable neighbor and our principal source of imported crude oil, and

Whereas, according to the United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration, pipelines are one of the safest and most cost-effective means to transport petroleum products, and

Whereas, the Keystone XL pipeline could reduce the large numbers of tankers and barges carrying crude oil through the Straits of Florida and across the Gulf of Mexico, and

Whereas, the Keystone XL pipeline will not encounter the disruptions experienced by tankers and barges delivering crude oil to Gulf state refineries during hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, thus enhancing Florida's energy security during emergencies, and

Whereas, the southern portion of the Keystone XL pipeline has already been approved and construction is proceeding, and

Whereas, according to the United States Department of State, construction of the

United States portion of the Keystone XL pipeline is a \$3.3 billion project that will create thousands of American jobs, and

Whereas, the Keystone XL pipeline project has been subject to the most thorough public consultation process of any proposed United States pipeline, and

Whereas, according to the Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement issued by the United States Department of State, multiple environmental impact statements and studies have concluded that the Keystone XL pipeline poses the least impact to the environment and is much safer than other modes of transporting crude oil, and

Whereas, the Keystone XL pipeline project has received bipartisan support in the United States Congress, including a letter to the President signed by 53 Senators urging the President to support the pipeline, and

Whereas, a recent Pew Research Center survey has found that two-thirds of Americans support the Keystone XL pipeline project: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida*, That the President of the United States is strongly urged to issue final approval for construction and completion of the Keystone XL pipeline project; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-275. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado urging and requesting members of Congress to increase the federal minimum wage and thereafter tie it to inflation to help ensure that hard-working Americans can earn a fair wage and afford to care for their families; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-1012

Whereas, The federal minimum wage was established through the "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938", in response to the Great Depression, to ensure that workers earned enough to pay for necessities and minimum monthly expenses; and

Whereas, Since then, the cost of living has steadily increased while the federal minimum wage has generally remained stagnant; and

Whereas, Congress has only raised the minimum wage twice in the past 20 years; and

Whereas, The federal minimum wage, adjusted for inflation, has declined from its peak of \$10.72 in 1968 to \$7.25 today, a 33% decrease in purchasing power; and

Whereas, Under the current minimum wage, it is possible to work full time and still be under the minimum federal poverty line; and

Whereas, It is virtually impossible for a minimum-wage worker to afford a two-bedroom apartment in any state while working a 40-hour week; and

Whereas, Raising the federal minimum wage would decrease American dependency on public assistance programs, such as Section 8 housing vouchers and food stamps, in order to pay for living expenses and raising families; and

Whereas, The majority of those who would benefit from a minimum wage increase are full-time workers who are supporting their families in moderate- to low-income households; and

Whereas, For the vast majority of low-skilled or unskilled workers, the minimum wage should be simply a starting salary that gets them employed and gives them a chance to advance; and

Whereas, Increasing the minimum wage would immediately boost the wages of about 15 million low-income workers; and

Whereas, Raising the federal minimum wage is projected to significantly boost the economy at large by increasing purchasing power of workers, thereby increasing the United States gross domestic product; and

Whereas, In 2006, Colorado voters decisively voted to approve Initiative 42, which raised the state minimum wage and tied it to inflation in order to preserve the purchasing power of Colorado workers and help ensure that they can support themselves and their families; and

Whereas, Colorado raised the minimum wage in 2011 and 2012 over the federal minimum, which contributed to a decrease in the unemployment rate from 8.73% to 7.2% during that two-year period; and

Whereas, Several other states have notably raised their minimum wages during times of high unemployment, including Washington, Oregon, Ohio, and Arizona, and those states all experienced decreases of at least 1.5% in unemployment during the same two-year period; and

Whereas, Raising the minimum wage not only will stimulate the economy but will also lift millions of Americans out of poverty: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein, That we, the Colorado General Assembly, urge and request members of Congress to increase the federal minimum wage and thereafter tie it to inflation to help ensure that hard-working Americans can earn a fair wage and afford to care for their families; and be it further*

*Resolved, That a copy of this Joint Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States House of Representatives and Senate, and the Majority and Minority Whips of the United States House of Representatives and Senate.*

POM-276. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois acknowledging the role of optimal infant nutrition during the first year of life and that new mothers require information, guidance, and support to provide the best nutritional start for their babies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 419

Whereas, Scientific research demonstrates that good nutrition beginning in utero and extending throughout the first year of life is critical to the healthy growth and development of infants and that breastfeeding is the best form of infant nutrition by providing certain health benefits for both the mother and child; and

Whereas, The United States Surgeon General and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend babies be exclusively fed with breast milk for the first 6 months of life, and continue on with breast milk through the first year of life; and

Whereas, Healthy People 2020, an initiative that comprises science-based, ten-year national objectives to improve the health of all Americans, administered under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, aims to increase the percentage of women initiating breastfeeding to 81.9% and still continuing to breastfeed when their newborn is 6 months of age to 60.6%; and

Whereas, It is a mother's choice in how she feeds her baby, and the choice is often made

based on the best feeding option for her infant given her and her family's life circumstance, including familial, cultural, and community issues as well as based on barriers to breastfeeding, including returning to work, medical difficulties, and lack of breastfeeding support; and

Whereas, The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and other public health organizations do promote breastfeeding goals, and some go beyond this to promote other dietary guidance for feeding an infant under age 2 or identify what a mother should do if she cannot or chooses not to breastfeed, or needs to supplement breastfeeding; and

Whereas, An example of this is provided in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food & Nutrition Service publication, "Feeding Your Baby in the first Year", which gives participants in the Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) food program a basic overview of the best sources of nutrition for their babies in the first year, starting with breastfeeding, including infant formula if needed, following with the introduction of solid foods; and

Whereas, Infant nutrition research has generated a range of iron-fortified infant formulas (as well as specialized infant formulas for premature babies and for those babies with medical conditions needing sustenance to survive and thrive) that address a critical need in providing a safe and nutritious alternative to breast milk for mothers who are unable to breastfeed: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That we acknowledge the role of optimal infant nutrition during the first year of life and that new mothers require information, guidance, and support to provide the best nutritional start for their babies; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we recognize the scientific research documenting that breastfeeding is the best form of infant nutrition and supports breastfeeding promotion policies; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we aspire for mothers to make informed choices about how to feed their infants by requiring that mothers receive, prior to and/or after birth, complete and balanced information on all infant nutrition options; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we call on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to publish and distribute maternal and infant nutrition information approved by the U.S. Surgeon General to mothers prior to and after birth; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we urge state health departments to facilitate public-private collaboration with families and communities to increase maternal and infant nutrition awareness, particularly in underserved areas, and provide access to nutritional programs for mothers and their children beginning in utero and throughout their first year of life; and be it further*

*Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, members of the Illinois Delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives, Illinois Senators Richard J. Durbin and Mark Kirk, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the United States Surgeon General, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other federal and state government officials as appropriate.*

POM-277. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois encouraging states that provide Medicaid coverage to examine the benefits of routine nutritional screening and thera-

peutic nutrition treatment for those who are malnourished or at risk for malnutrition, as well as examine the benefits of nutrition screening and therapeutic nutrition treatment as part of the standard for evidenced-based hospital care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 418

Whereas, Leading health and nutrition experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of patient health and that good nutrition and good patient health can keep people healthy and out of institutionalized health care facilities, thus reducing healthcare costs; and

Whereas, Inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is not routinely viewed as a medical concern in the U.S., and that malnutrition is particularly prevalent in vulnerable populations, such as older adults, hospitalized patients, or minority populations that statistically shoulder the highest incidences of the most severe chronic illnesses such as diabetes, kidney disease, and cardiovascular disease; and

Whereas, Illness, injury, and malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that impact good patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; the elderly lose lean body mass more quickly and to a greater extent than younger adults and weight assessment (body weight and body mass index) can overlook accurate indicators of lean body mass; and

Whereas, The American Nursing Association defines therapeutic nutrition as the administration of food and fluids to support the metabolic processes of a patient who is malnourished or at high risk of becoming malnourished; and

Whereas, Access to therapeutic nutrition is critical in restoring lean body mass such that it resolves malnutrition challenges and, in turn, improves clinical outcomes, reduces health care costs, and can keep people and our communities healthy; and

Whereas, Despite the recognized link between good nutrition and good health, nutritional screening and therapeutic nutrition treatments have not been incorporated as routine medical treatments across the spectrum of health care: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That we encourage states that provide Medicaid coverage to examine the benefits of routine nutritional screening and therapeutic nutrition treatment for those who are malnourished or at risk for malnutrition, as well as examine the benefits of nutrition screening and therapeutic nutrition treatment as part of the standard for evidenced-based hospital care; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we support an increased emphasis on nutrition through the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, as well as for Medicare beneficiaries, to improve their disease management and health outcomes; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we encourage preventive and wellness services, such as counseling for obesity and chronic disease management, to be a part of the Essential Health Benefits package included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; and be it further*

*Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, members of the Illinois delegation of United States House of Representatives, Illinois Senators Richard J. Durbin and Mark Kirk, and other federal and state government officials as appropriate.*

POM-278. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona

urging the members of the United States Congress to establish a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs in the United States House of Representatives; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2001

Whereas, it is a troubling fact that, over the past century, numerous American military personnel have been taken prisoner of war by enemy forces or have gone missing in action while in service to their country; and

Whereas, these men and women have diligently served the citizens of the United States through their efforts to provide for the safety, security and well-being of this state and nation. In so doing, they have sacrificed their time, dreams and often their own health or lives to preserve our liberties and freedom; and

Whereas, we owe a special debt of respect and gratitude to those who were captured and yet kept faith, even while being deprived of their freedom and possibly tortured, and to those whose fate remains unknown by their loved ones; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the United States attempt to determine the fate of members of the American armed forces who were taken prisoner or who went missing from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Cold War missions, the Persian Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom; and

Whereas, a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs in the United States House of Representatives would be tasked with conducting a full investigation of all unresolved matters relating to any American personnel who are unaccounted for from these conflicts, including MIAs and POWs who are missing or were captured.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the Members of the United States Congress establish a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs in the United States House of Representatives.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-279. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California urging the President of the United States to take executive action to suspend any further deportations of unauthorized individuals with no serious criminal history; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 40

Whereas, According to the Pew Hispanic Center, in 2011, there were 11.1 million unauthorized immigrants living in the United States; and

Whereas, Deportations have reached record levels under President Obama, rising to an annual average of nearly 400,000 since 2009; and

Whereas, According to Congress Members Raul M. Grijalva and Yvette Clarke, although the Obama Administration reportedly prioritized deporting only criminals, many individuals with no serious criminal history consistently have been deported; and

Whereas, Increased deportations and a continuously broken immigration system exacerbate the living conditions of United States citizen children whose parents have been deported; and

Whereas, Separation of children from their parents, irrespective of immigration status, always results in severe consequences for young children who are left with no parental

guidance or care and a highly unstable financial situation; and

Whereas, As immigration continues to be at the center of a national debate, President Obama and Congress must implement a more humanitarian immigration policy that keeps families together; and

Whereas, California is home to approximately 10.3 million immigrants of which approximately 2.6 million are unauthorized to live in the United States; and

Whereas, Many Members of Congress recently signed a letter requesting President Obama to suspend any further deportations; and

Whereas, Since California is home to a large number of unauthorized immigrants from all parts of the world, this state should make it a priority to keep families together and continue to press President Obama and Congress for a solution to our broken federal immigration system; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate urges President Obama to take executive action to suspend any further deportations of unauthorized individuals with no serious criminal history; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

POM-280. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado urging and requesting members of Congress to update the formula in Section 4 of the federal "Voting Rights Act of 1965", as amended, as quickly as possible to ensure Section 5 of the act can be restored and every citizen's voice is heard and every vote is counted; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-1009

Whereas, The Colorado General Assembly has always supported the federal "Voting Rights Act of 1965", as amended, and its legacy of protecting American citizens; and

Whereas, The Voting Rights Act was one of the greatest achievements of the Civil Rights Movement and helped to not only allow equal access at the ballot box, but to facilitate advancement in other areas of life for minorities across the country; and

Whereas, Congress passed the Fifteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1869, giving black men the right to vote, but attempted and actual barriers to political participation remain consistently introduced in capitols and Congress even today; and

Whereas, In 1964, fewer than seven percent of eligible black citizens were registered to vote in Mississippi and, by the end of 1966, that figure had risen to nearly 60 percent, and during the same period Alabama voter registration rates climbed from below 20 percent to over 50 percent; and

Whereas, The so-called Jim Crow laws of the South made voter registration and election rules more restrictive, intentionally reducing political participation by minority voters with the use of poll taxes, literacy tests, and record-keeping and identification requirements; and

Whereas, In 1964, only five black citizens held seats in Congress (with none from any Southern state) and a total of 94 black citizens served in all legislatures, and today the Congressional Black Caucus has 43 members while over 600 African Americans hold seats in all legislatures, with another 8,800 being mayors, sheriffs, school board members, and other elected officials; and

Whereas, Forty-seven percent of these public officials live in the seven states originally covered by the Voting Rights Act; and

Whereas, Voter turnout in the South dropped drastically due to segregation-era voting laws, and as a result, by 1910 not a single black voter was registered in 27 of 60 parishes in the state of Louisiana, and black voters were completely eliminated from the rolls in North Carolina from 1896 to 1904; and

Whereas, In a five-to-four decision in June 2013, the United States Supreme Court ruled that Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act was unconstitutional, which section sets forth the formula under which states and jurisdictions must seek preclearance from the United States Department of Justice before enacting new voter laws and regulations or making changes to existing laws; and

Whereas, The preclearance provision in Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act relied on the formula contained in Section 4 to protect the voting rights of all citizens; and

Whereas, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, in her dissent to the *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder* case, stated, "Just as buildings in California have a greater need to be earthquake-proofed, places where there is greater racial polarization in voting have a greater need for prophylactic measures to prevent purposeful race discrimination."; and

Whereas, Prior to the United States Supreme Court's invalidation of Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act, federal district courts in several preclearance states, including Texas, Florida, and Alabama, ruled their proposed voting law changes unconstitutional; and

Whereas, Sufficient data has been established from numerous studies and surveys that could serve as the basis for a new formula, including data found from calculating the overall size of the minority population, voter turnout among all groups, the number of voting discrimination lawsuits as well as number of cases that have been lost or settled, and the prevalence of racially polarized or biased voting as a factor in voter preferences; and

Whereas, Congress has repeatedly extended the Voting Rights Act, which was first passed in 1965 and then reauthorized for five years in 1970, for seven years in 1975, and for 25 years in 1982, and Congress renewed the act in 2006 for 25 years after holding extensive hearings from which they found persistent racial discrimination at the polls; and

Whereas, When the Voting Rights Act passed in 2006, it enjoyed wide bipartisan support and was signed into law by President George W. Bush; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly of the State of Colorado*, the Senate concurring herein, That the Colorado General Assembly urges and requests members of Congress to update the formula in Section 4 of the federal "Voting Rights Act of 1965", as amended, as quickly as possible to ensure Section 5 of the act can be restored and every citizen's voice is heard and every vote is counted; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this Joint Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, the Congressional Black Caucus, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

POM-281. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania recognizing the month of May 2014 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 367

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease; and

Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the upper and lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horn of the spinal cord; and

Whereas, The initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and

Whereas, As ALS progresses, the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking and breathing; and

Whereas, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and

Whereas, Patients with ALS typically remain alert and aware of their loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

Whereas, ALS affects military veterans at twice the rate of the general population; and

Whereas, ALS occurs in adulthood, most commonly between 40 and 70 years of age, with the peak age of about 55, and affects both men and women without bias; and

Whereas, Annually, more than 5,000 new ALS patients are diagnosed throughout the nation; and

Whereas, In Pennsylvania, there are currently more than 1,000 individuals who have been formally diagnosed with ALS; and

Whereas, The \$350,000 in State funding the General Assembly appropriated for ALS patient care in fiscal year 2013-2014 provided services to more than 900 constituents and provided a substantial savings to the State budget and to taxpayers; and

Whereas, The ALS Association reported in 2009 that on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

Whereas, ALS has no known cause, prevention or cure; and

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the public's awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has not only on patients but on their families as well and recognizes the research being done to eradicate this horrible disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate of Pennsylvania designate the month of May 2014 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-282. A memorial adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to restore the presumption of a service connection between Agent Orange exposure and subsequent illnesses to United States Vietnam War veterans who served in the waters, which is defined as the combat zone, and in the airspace over the combat; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## HOUSE MEMORIAL 2001

Whereas, during the Vietnam War, the United States military sprayed twenty-two million gallons of Agent Orange and other herbicides over Vietnam to reduce forest cover and crops that the enemy used. These herbicides contained dioxin, which has since been identified as carcinogenic and has been linked with a number of serious and disabling illnesses affecting thousands of veterans; and

Whereas, the United States Congress passed the Agent Orange Act of 1991 (P.L.

102-4: 105 stat 11: 38 United States code section 1116) that presumptively recognized as service-connected certain diseases among military personnel who served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975. This presumption has provided access to appropriate disability compensation and medical care for Vietnam veterans who were diagnosed with illnesses such as type II diabetes, Hodgkin's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, prostate cancer, Parkinson's disease, multiple myeloma, peripheral neuropathy, AL amyloidosis, respiratory cancers, soft tissue sarcomas and others yet to be identified; and

Whereas, pursuant to a 2001 directive, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs policy has denied the presumption of a service connection for herbicide-related illnesses to Vietnam veterans who cannot furnish written documentation that they had "boots on the ground" in-country during their time of service, making it virtually impossible for countless United States Navy, Marine and Air Force veterans to pursue their claims for benefits. Moreover, personnel who served on ships in the "Blue Water Navy" in Vietnamese territorial waters were, in fact, exposed to dangerous airborne toxins, which not only drifted offshore but washed into streams and rivers draining into the South China Sea; and

Whereas, ever since this 2001 directive was implemented, the United States Navy has been excluded from receiving benefits even though Agent Orange has been verified, through various studies and reports, as a wide-spreading chemical that was able to reach Navy ships through the air and waterborne distribution routes; and

Whereas, warships that were positioned off the Vietnamese shore routinely distilled seawater to obtain potable water. A 2002 Australian study found that the distillation process, rather than removing toxins, in fact concentrated dioxin in water that was used for drinking, cooking and washing. This study was conducted by the Australian Department of Veterans Affairs after it found that Vietnam veterans of the Royal Australian Navy had a higher rate of mortality from Agent Orange-associated diseases than did Vietnam veterans from other branches of the military. When the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention studied specific cancers among Vietnam veterans, it found a higher risk of cancer among United States Navy veterans; and

Whereas, herbicides containing dioxin did not discriminate between soldiers on the ground and sailors on ships offshore; and

Whereas, more than thirty veterans service organizations support the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013. By not passing H.R. 543, a precedent could be set to selectively provide certain groups with injury-related medical care while denying other groups without any financial, scientific or consistent reasoning; and

Whereas, when the Agent Orange Act passed in 1991 with no dissenting votes, congressional leaders stressed the importance of responding to the health concerns of Vietnam veterans and ending the bitterness and anxiety that had surrounded the issue of herbicide exposure. The federal government has also demonstrated its awareness of the hazards of Agent Orange exposure through its involvement in the identification, containment and mitigation of dioxin "hot spots" in Vietnam; and

Whereas, the United States Congress should reaffirm the nation's commitment to the well-being of all its veterans and direct the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to administer the Agent Orange Act under the presumption that herbicide exposure in Vietnam includes the country's inland waterways, offshore waters and airspace, encompassing the entire combat zone.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, prays:

1. That the United States Congress restore the presumption of a service connection between Agent Orange exposure and subsequent illnesses to United States Vietnam War veterans who served in the waters, which is defined as the combat zone, and in the airspace over the combat zone.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the state of Arizona.

POM-283. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Missouri urging the President of the United States and administration officials to support the increased importation of oil from Canadian oil sands, to approve the newly routed TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline, and to support and facilitate permitting for oil production off the northern coast of Alaska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, high oil prices are having a major detrimental impact on families, farms, and businesses in Missouri and are likely to undercut the prospects for an economic recovery; and

Whereas, the United States currently imports almost half of its oil and petroleum products, making it dependent on foreign sources and subject to interruptions and price fluctuations stemming from geopolitical forces; and

Whereas, such instability has damaging consequences both for our economy and our national security; and

Whereas, the United States Geological Survey estimates a resource of up to 27 billion barrels of oil in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas of Alaska, providing a vast domestic oil reserve, but opposition and regulatory hurdles are keeping energy producers from accessing these resources; and

Whereas, the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline project seeks to link expanded oil production from the Canadian oil sands to refineries in the United States and to facilitate the flow of oil from the Dakotas to the Gulf Coast, thereby decreasing our dependence on oil from outside of North America; and

Whereas, Canada is a close friend and ally, with whom we share links of infrastructure and energy networks and other ties, so that dollars spent on Canadian oil will likely contribute to the success of the American economy; and

Whereas, the TransCanada pipeline project is projected to create construction and manufacturing jobs in the United States, adding billions of dollars to the United States economy; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby call upon President Barack Obama and administration officials to:

(1) Support the increased importation of oil from Canadian oil sands and to approve the newly routed TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline to reduce our oil dependency on unstable governments, strengthen ties with an important ally, and create jobs for American workers;

(2) Support and facilitate permitting for oil production off the northern coast of Alaska to decrease our dependence on foreign oil and spur investment in the American economy; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of State John Kerry, United States House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner, and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 2028. A bill to amend the law relating to sport fish restoration and recreational boating safety, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-205).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Legislative Activities of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation During the 112th Congress" (Rept. No. 113-206).

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 2564. A bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking, to stop exploitation through trafficking, and to amend title 18, United States Code, by providing a penalty for knowingly selling advertising that offers certain commercial sex acts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 495. A resolution designating July 2014 as "Summer Meals Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs.

MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. WALSH, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 496. A resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Alan John Dixon, former United States Senator for the State of Illinois; considered and agreed to.

### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 375

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 375, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 429

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 429, a bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products.

S. 489

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 489, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to increase and adjust for inflation the maximum value of articles that may be imported duty-free by one person on one day, and for other purposes.

S. 561

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 561, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation of income controlled foreign corporations attributable to imported property.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to repeal a duplicative program relating to inspection and grading of catfish.

S. 931

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 931, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to raise awareness of, and to educate breast cancer patients anticipating surgery, especially patients who are members of racial and ethnic minority groups, regarding the availability and coverage of breast re-

construction, prostheses, and other operations.

S. 948

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 948, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage and payment for complex rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program.

S. 1011

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1011, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

S. 1064

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1064, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of clinical psychologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing clinical psychologist services under the Medicare program.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to establish programs with respect to childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer.

S. 1349

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1349, a bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

S. 1410

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1410, a bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders.

S. 1463

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1505

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1505, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect to certain sporting good articles, and to exempt